ARTIS...

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU. YOU LOOK WELL,
ERIC.

GRAMPS!
HOW DID THAT PERSON FIND ME?!
I EVEN WENT

AROUND WITH MY FACE COVERED...

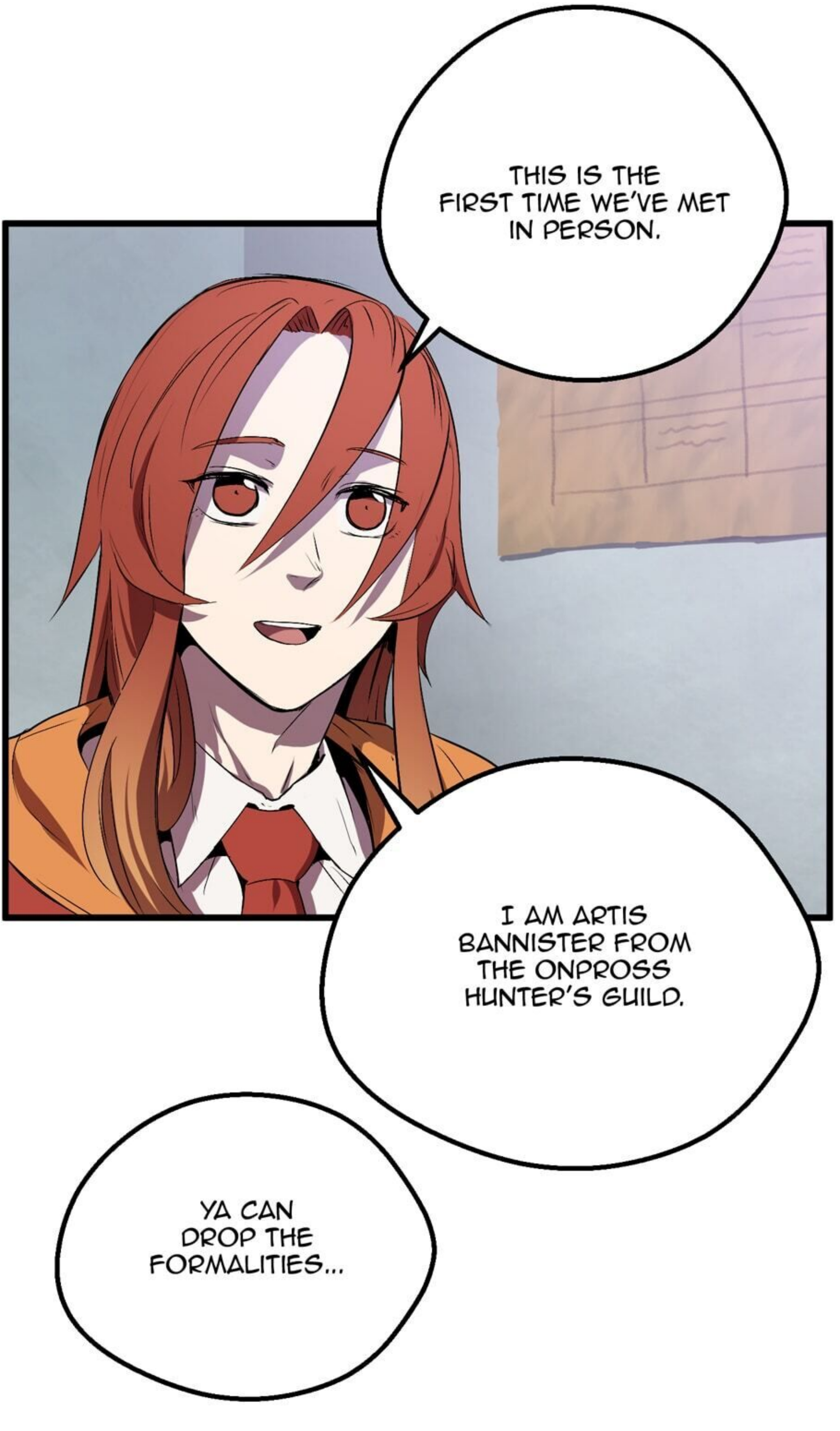
DID YA REALLY THINK THAT LITTLE PIECE OF CLOTH COULD HIDE YER HUGE SIZE?

YA DON'T HAVE TO FUSS, I'LL HANDLE THIS.

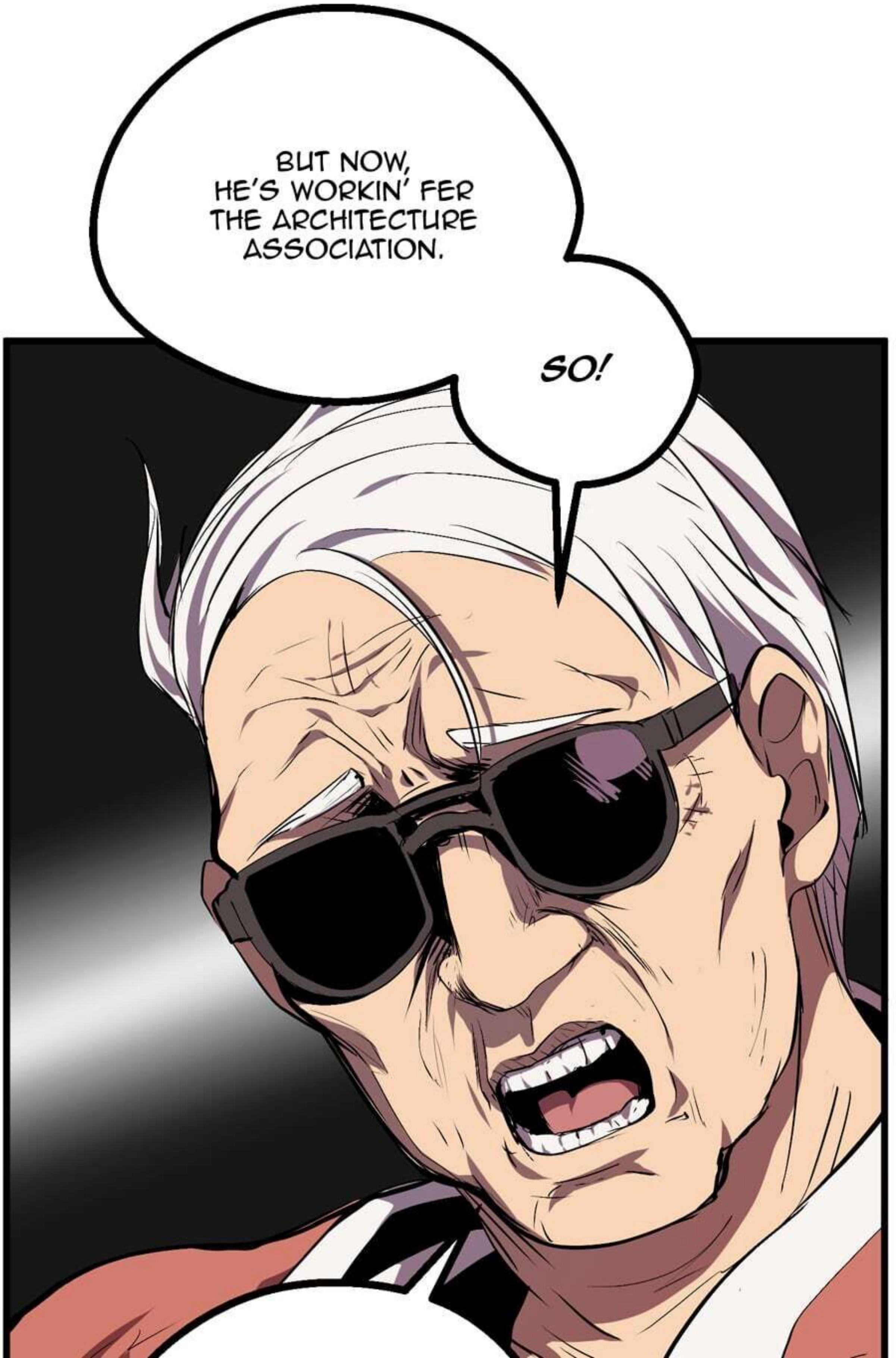
SHE CAME ALL THE WAY HERE LOOKING FER YA, SO I THOUGHT I'D LET HER TELL HER STORY.

SLIP
SO I CAN MAKE SURE YA DON'T GIT INVOLVED WITH HER AGAIN.

I FEEL BAD FOR ARTIS, BUT...
I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU THEN, GRAMPS.
IT'D BE BEST IF YOU DON'T GET INVOLVED WITH ME ANYMORE.

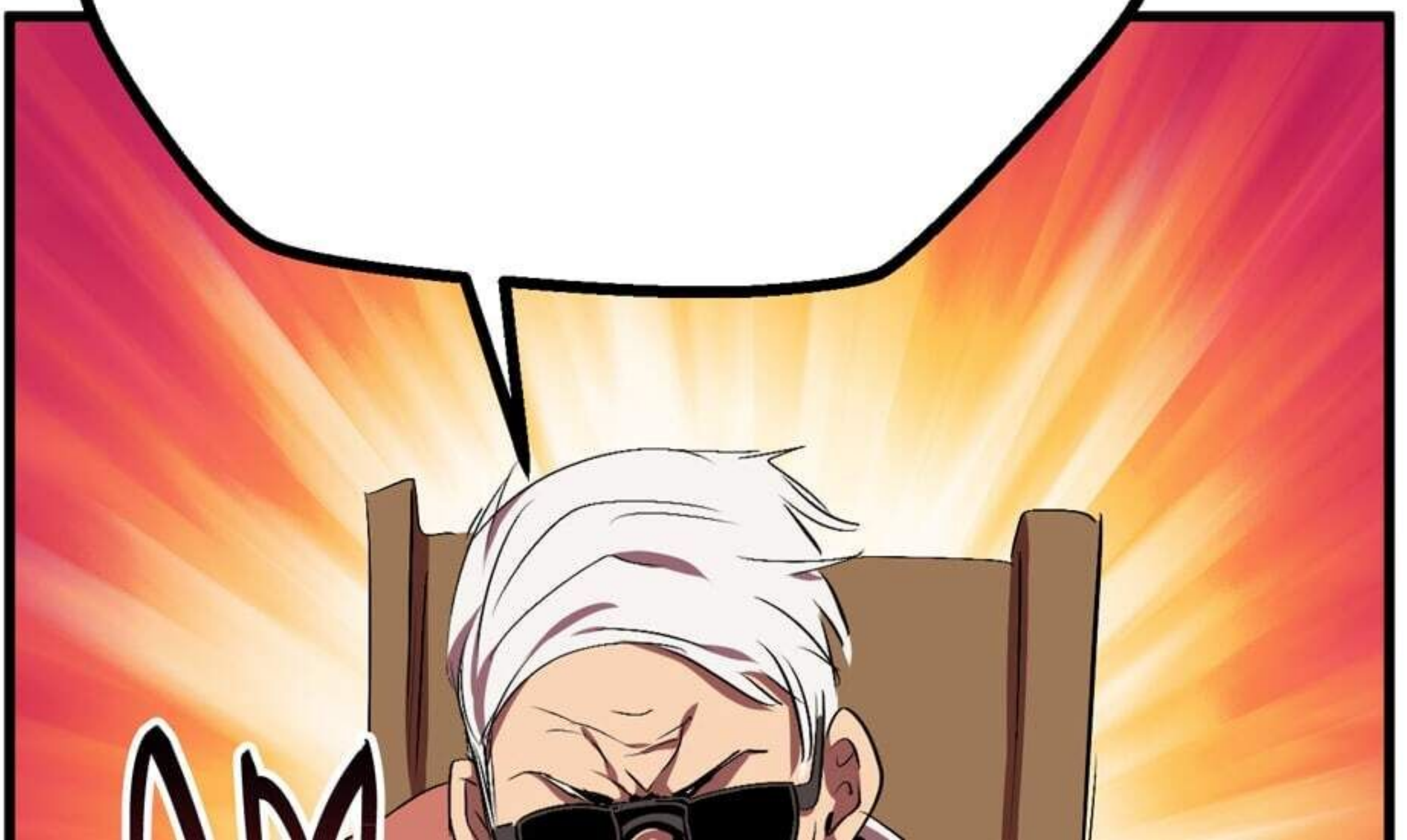

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE MET IN PERSON.
I AM ARTIS BANNISTER FROM THE ONPROSS HUNTER'S GUILD.
YA CAN DROP THE FORMALITIES...

WELL...
I KNOW THAT OUR
BOY HERE
USED TO
BE A HUNTER.


BUT NOW, HE'S WORKIN' FER THE ARCHITECTURE ASSOCIATION.
SO!

HE'S A PART OF ***OUR*** FAMILY!

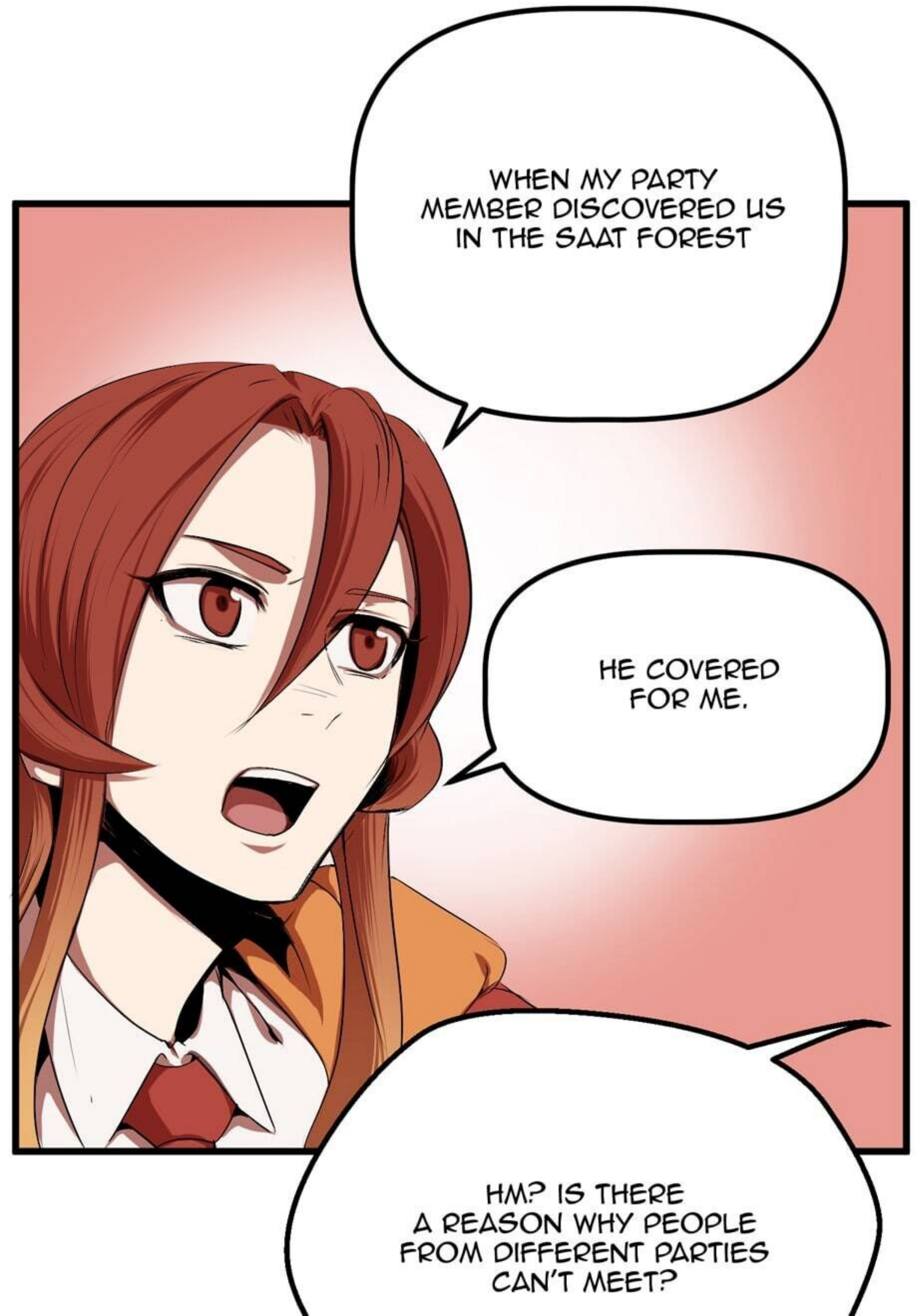
BUT NOW YER ASKIN' ME TO HAND HIM OVER TO YA?!

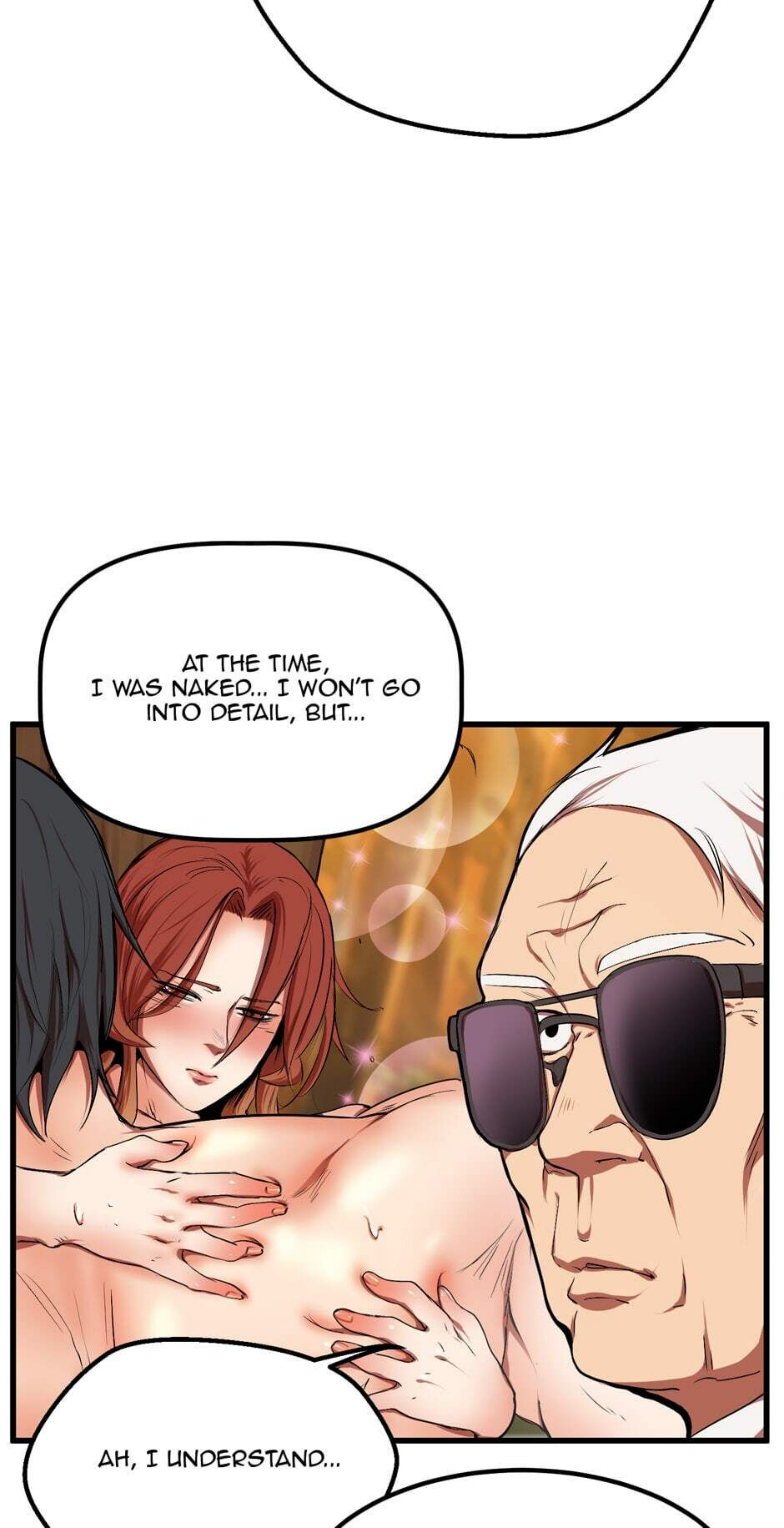


AH, THIS WASN'T A REQUEST FROM THE

A REQUEST FROM THE GUILD. I WAS ASKING FOR HIS HELP WITH A PERSONAL MATTER... THERE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A MISUNDERSTANDING.
AND WHAT SORTA RELATIONSHIP DO YA HAVE WITH HIM?

WELL... WE WERE IN DIFFERENT PARTIES
SO I DIDN'T KNOW HIM ALL THAT WELL, BUT...


WHEN MY PARTY MEMBER DISCOVERED US IN THE SAAT FOREST
HE COVERED FOR ME.
HM? IS THERE A REASON WHY PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT PARTIES CAN'T MEET?


AT THE TIME, I WAS NAKED... I WON'T GO INTO DETAIL, BUT...
AH, I UNDERSTAND...

GRAMPS, I THINK YOU'RE MISUNDERSTANDING SOMETHING.

AFTER THAT (LOUDE) INCIDENT, ERIC SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN TORMENTED WITH GUILT.

YA SCOUNDREL...!

NO, GRAMPS! YOU'RE NOT THINKING SOMETHING WEIRD, RIGHT? RIGHT?

AND AFTER HE CAME BACK TO THE CITY, THE SITUATION WE FOUND OURSELVES IN WAS DIFFICULT.

HE ASKED ME TO DELIVER A 1 MILLION EX PROMISSORY NOTE TO

THE HUNTER'S GUILD,

I PAID EVERYTHING BACK!

SO I DON'T NEED YOU ANYMORE~!

WHICH ALLOWED HIM TO QUIT BEING A HUNTER.

HUP

GET OUT!

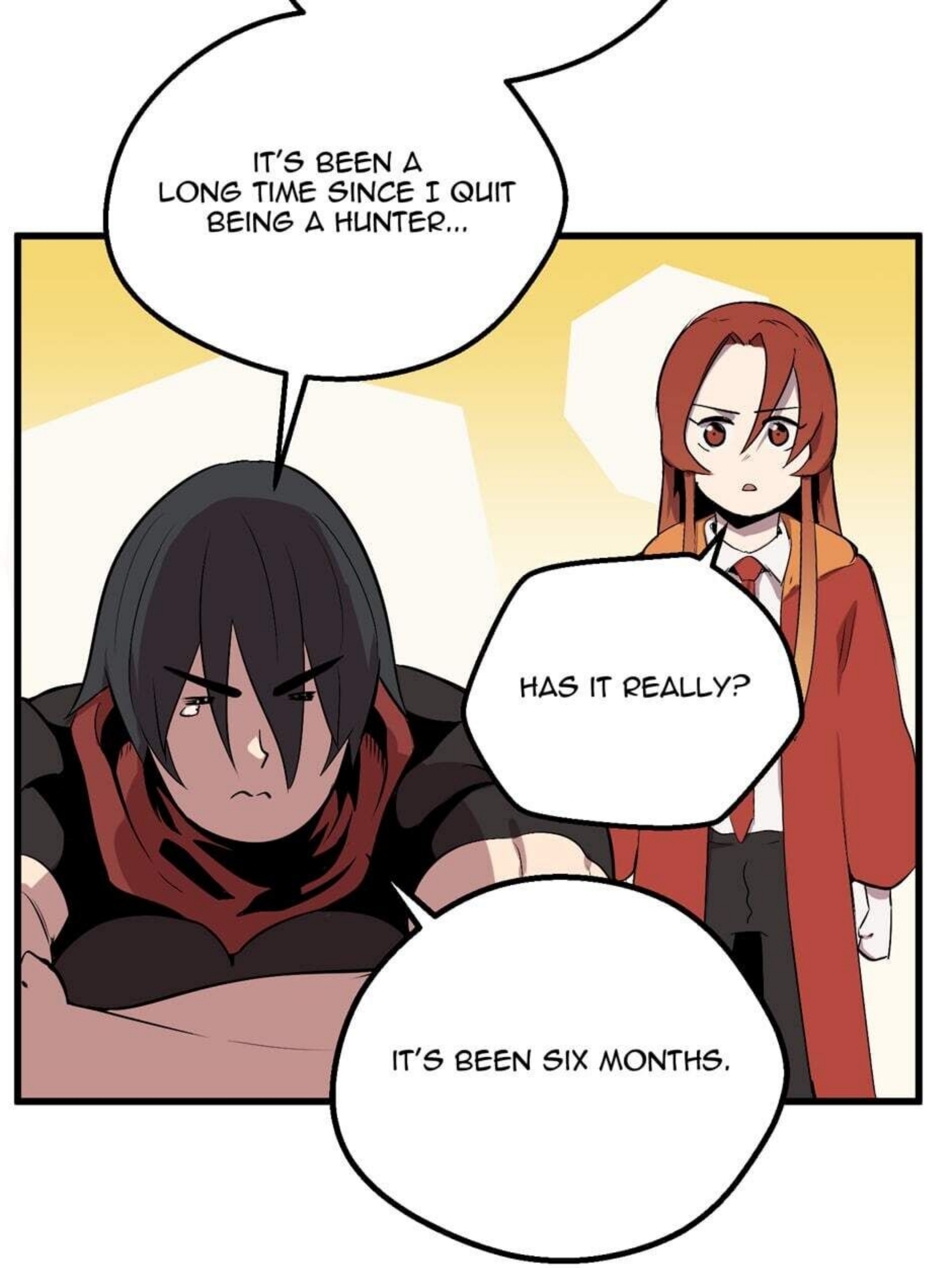
CRASH

IF YOU DID THAT WITH A WOMAN THEN YA SHOULD TAKE RESPONSIBILITY!

I HAVE ***NOTHING*** TO SAY TO YA 'TIL YA FINISH YER BUSINESS WITH HER!

THANK GOODNESS HE WILLINGLY GAVE YOU PERMISSION.

TOO MANY THINGS WERE OMITTED FROM THAT STORY!!
TALKING ABOUT THE INQUISITOR WOULD HAVE MADE THINGS DIFFICULT.
THE SITUATION IS ALREADY DIFFICULT...!


IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I QUIT BEING A HUNTER...
HAS IT REALLY?
IT'S BEEN SIX MONTHS.

BUT THIS TIME, THE QUEST IS SIMPLY TO EXPLORE SAAT FOREST AND COLLECT SAMPLES.
THERE WON'T BE ANYTHING DANGEROUS, SO DON'T WORRY.

AND EVEN IF
SOMETHING DOES HAPPEN,
I WILL PROTECT YOU.

I PROMISE.

ALSO, SINCE WE'RE COMRADES NOW, I'D LIKE IT IF YOU WOULD SPEAK MORE COMFORTABLY WITH ME.

Original Novel : YKB
Story & Art : SOON-Q

Translation:
Kristianna Lee & Mina Son

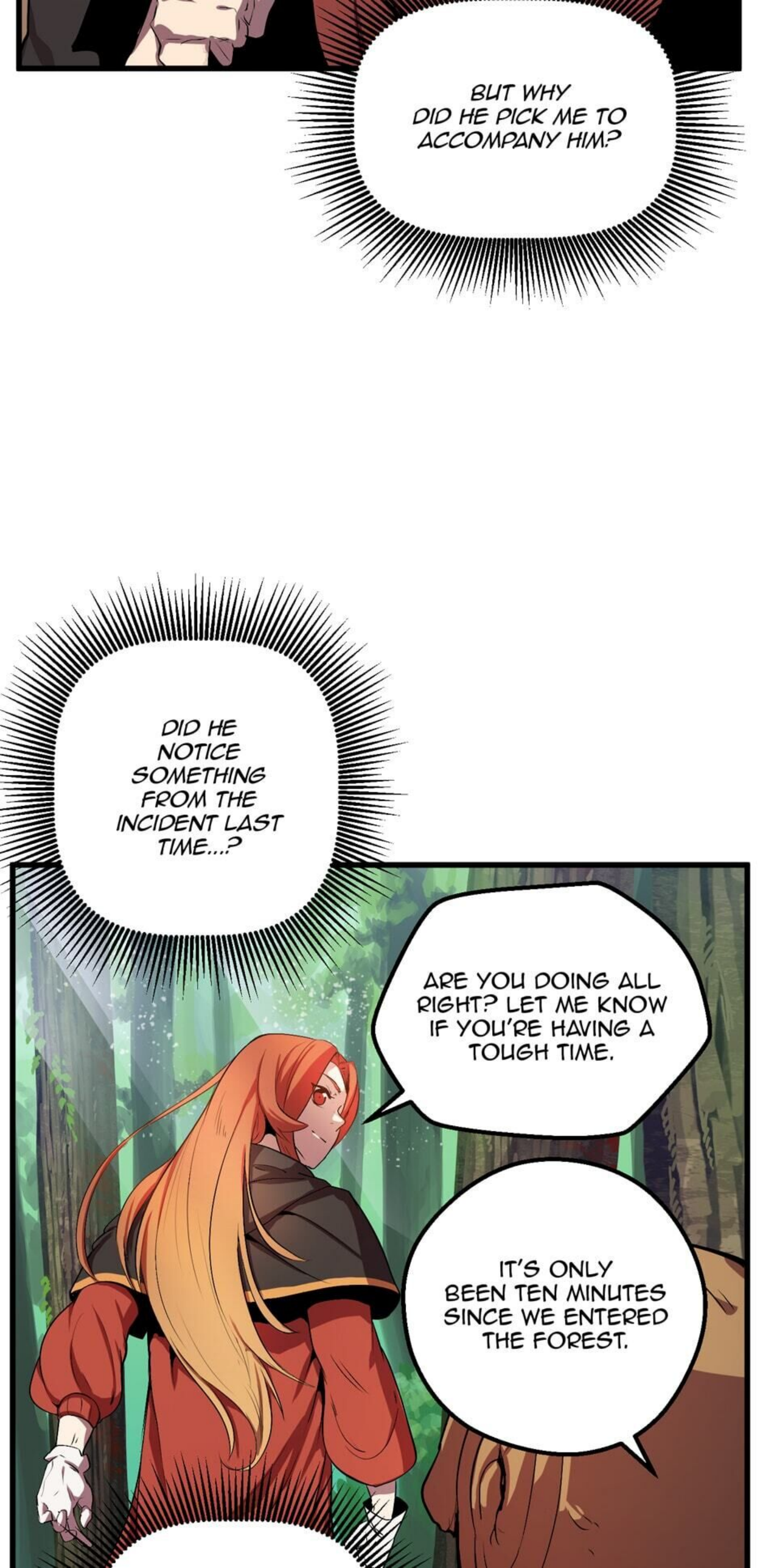
Typesetting: Joh-Lize Viljoen

Quality Control: Peter Law

Localization Produced by Tapas Media

SAAT FOREST

...I ENDED UP FOLLOWING HIM.

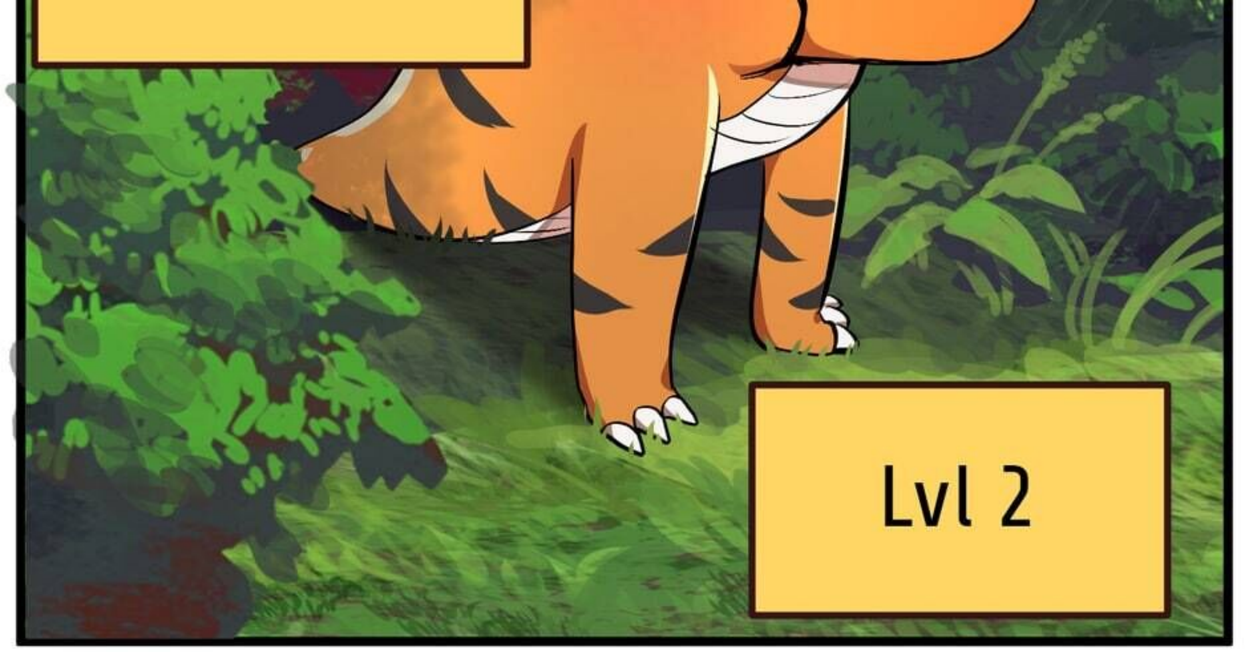

BUT WHY DID HE PICK ME TO ACCOMPANY HIM?
DID HE NOTICE SOMETHING FROM THE INCIDENT LAST TIME...?
ARE YOU DOING ALL RIGHT? LET ME KNOW IF YOU'RE HAVING A TOUGH TIME.
IT'S ONLY BEEN TEN MINUTES SINCE WE ENTERED THE FOREST.

NO WAY.
I MEAN, IT'S BEEN SIX MONTHS. WHY WOULD HE COME FIND ME NOW?

THAT'S RIGHT.
JUST LIKE GRAMPS SAID, IF I ACT NATURAL, PEOPLE WON'T GET SUSPICIOUS.

RUSTLE

!!
KWEH!
Species: Kelok
A low-level
monster who lives
in the forest.


Lvl 2

WHAT IS THIS CUTE THING?!
ARTIS! STOP FOR A SECOND!

ARTIS, COULD WE TAKE HIM AS A SAMPLE AND RAISE HIM?

BOOM

FIREBALL.

THERE COULD BE POISON, SO TAKE THESE POTIONS!
DID YOU GET HURT ANYWHERE?!
IT BIT YOUR HAND, BUT THANKFULLY THERE ARE NO WOUNDS!

NEXT TIME YOU FIND A SAMPLE, PLEASE CALL ME RIGHT AWAY.
IS YOUR BLOOD BLUE OR SOMETHING?
IT'S RED, WHY?

AFTER THAT,
OUR EXPLORATION
CONTINUED.

BUT...

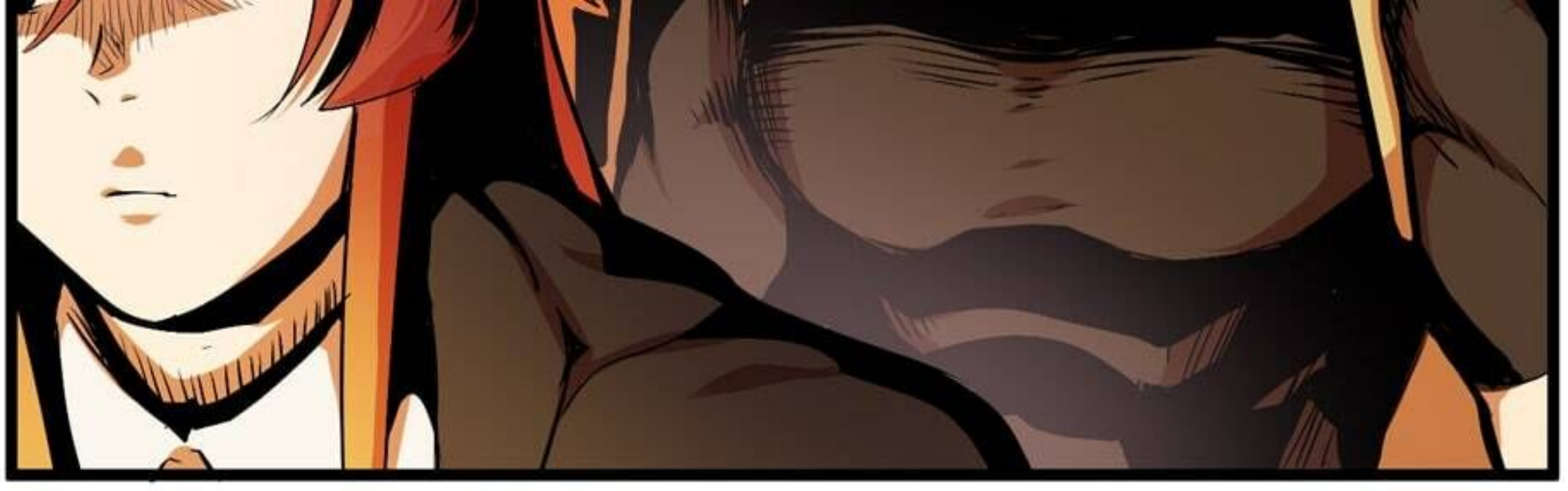
ARTIS

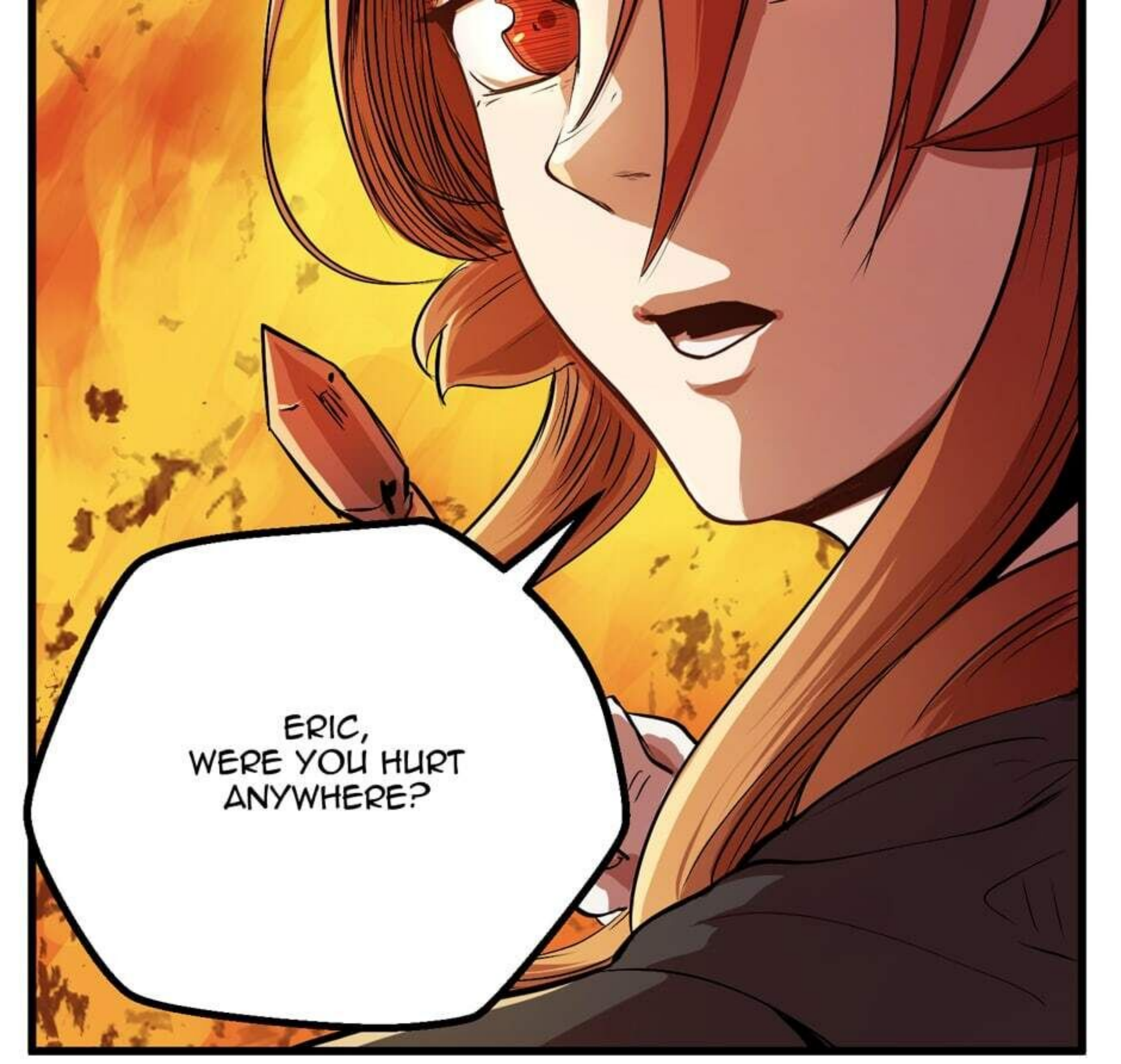
BURNED

AND BURNED

AND BURNED SOME MORE.

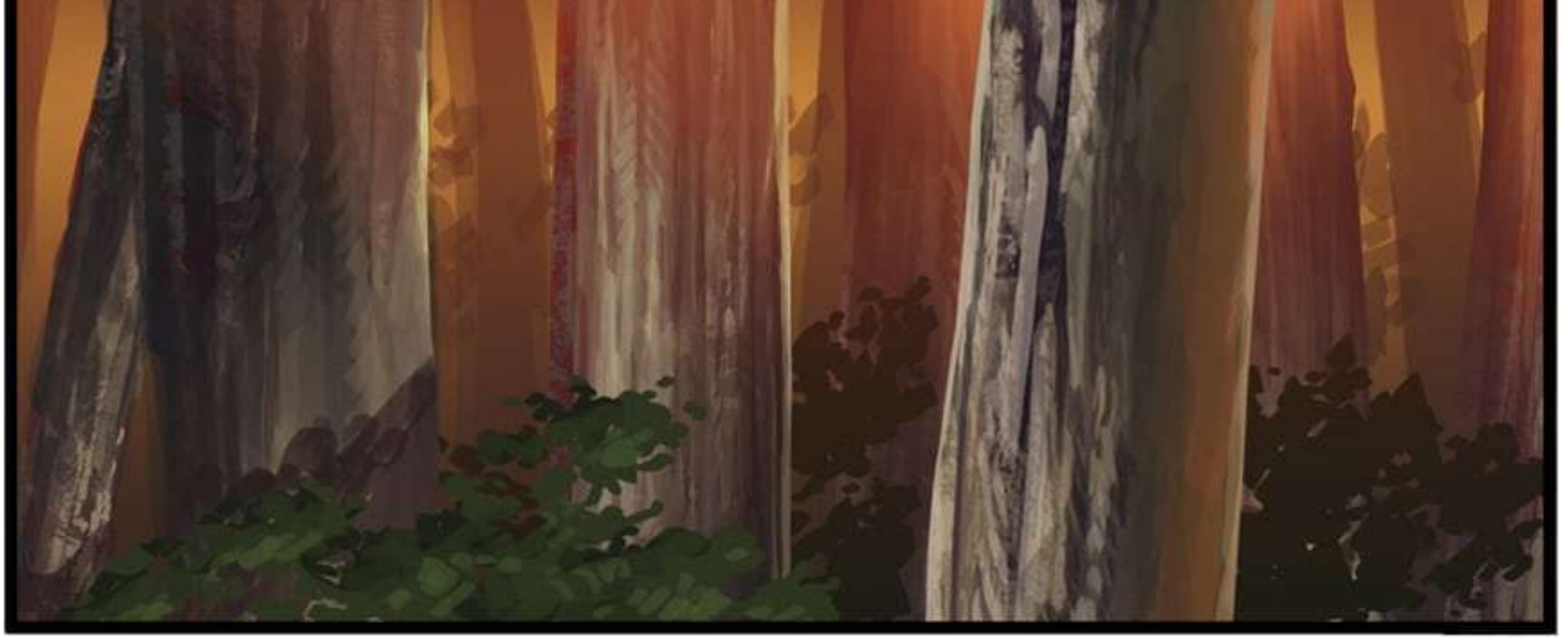
THIS FOREST HAS QUITE A FEW DANGEROUS MONSTERS!

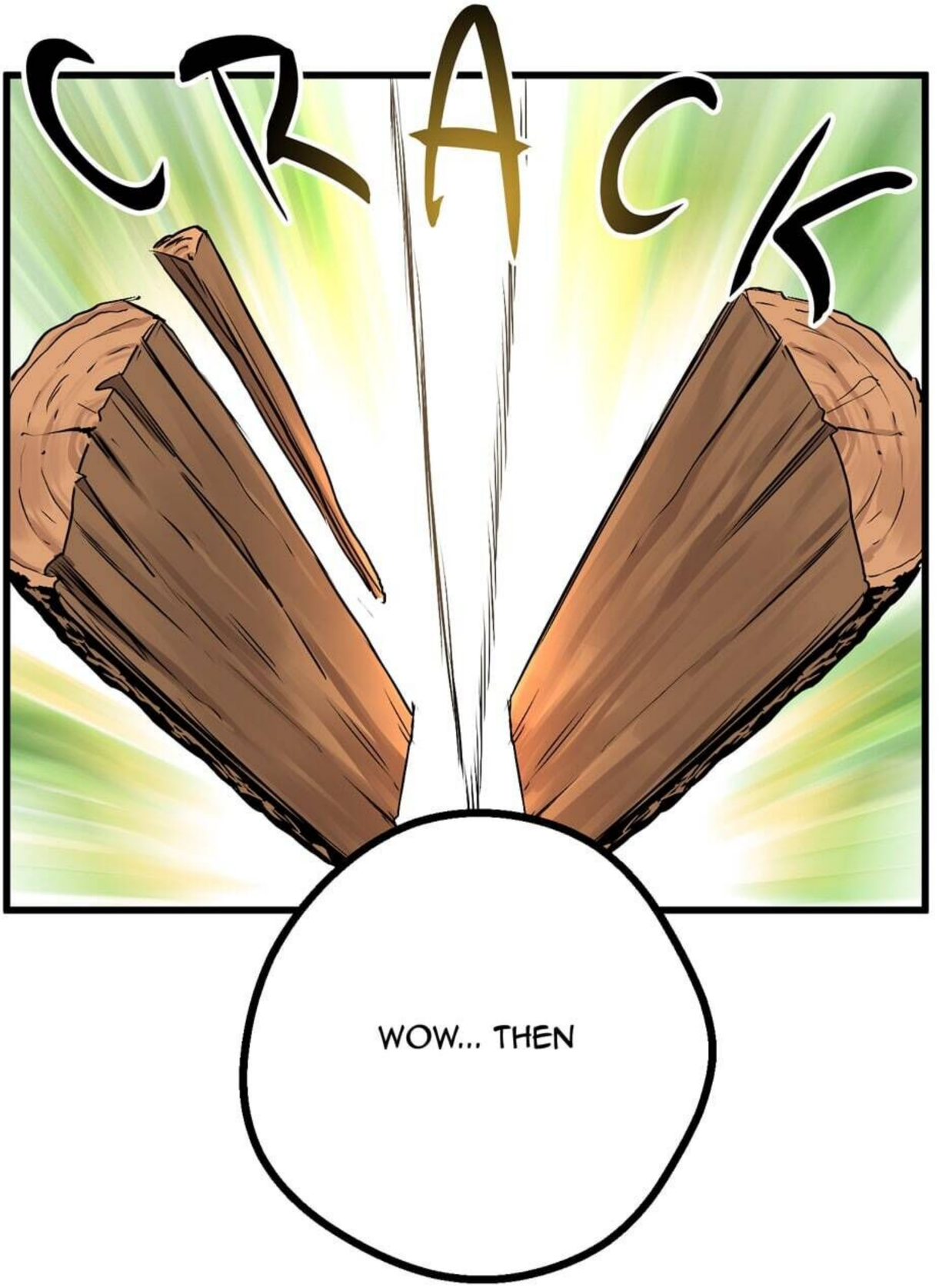



ERIC,
WERE YOU HURT
ANYWHERE?

I'M FINE...
BUT FOR NOW, FIRE MAGIC IS BANNED.
IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT THE FOREST, DON'T BE.
IF I STOP THE FLOW OF MANA, THE FIRE IS EXTINGUISHED IMMEDIATELY.
BANNED.

...I WILL TRY MY BEST.




CRACK
WOW... THEN

LOUDE'S PARTY IS THE FIRST PARTY YOU JOINED AFTER BECOMING A HUNTER?
THAT'S HOW IT HAPPENED.

THAT'S TOO BAD.

LOUDE BEGAN TO FEEL AWKWARD AROUND ME, SO I LEFT THE PARTY AND WENT OFF ON MY OWN. SO THE TRUTH IS, I DON'T HAVE ANY EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH PARTIES.

IT'S ALSO MY FIRST TIME CAMPING.

SLICE

SO THEN, WHY DID YOU JOIN THE HUNTER'S GUILD?
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FUN TO COLLECT AND RESEARCH MATERIALS ON MY OWN.
RICH PEOPLE AND THEIR HOBBIES...
BESIDES, MAGES

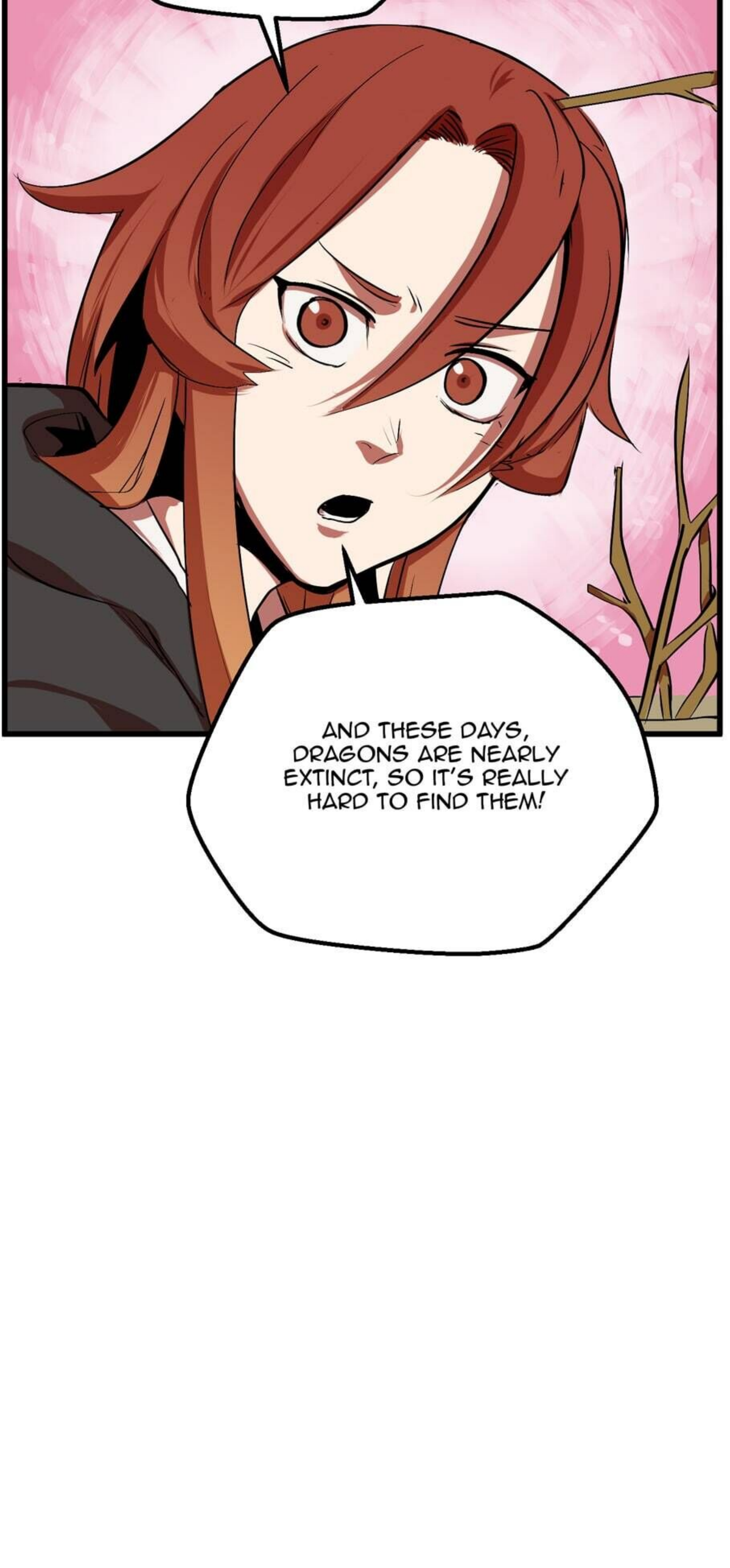
CAN RAISE THEIR LEVEL BY SIMPLY RESEARCHING MAGIC,
FWOOM
SO THERE WAS NO NEED FOR ME TO GO OUTSIDE.

WHAT KIND OF

DRAGON HUNTER CATCHES A DRAGON WHILE NEVER LEAVING HIS HOME?

ACK

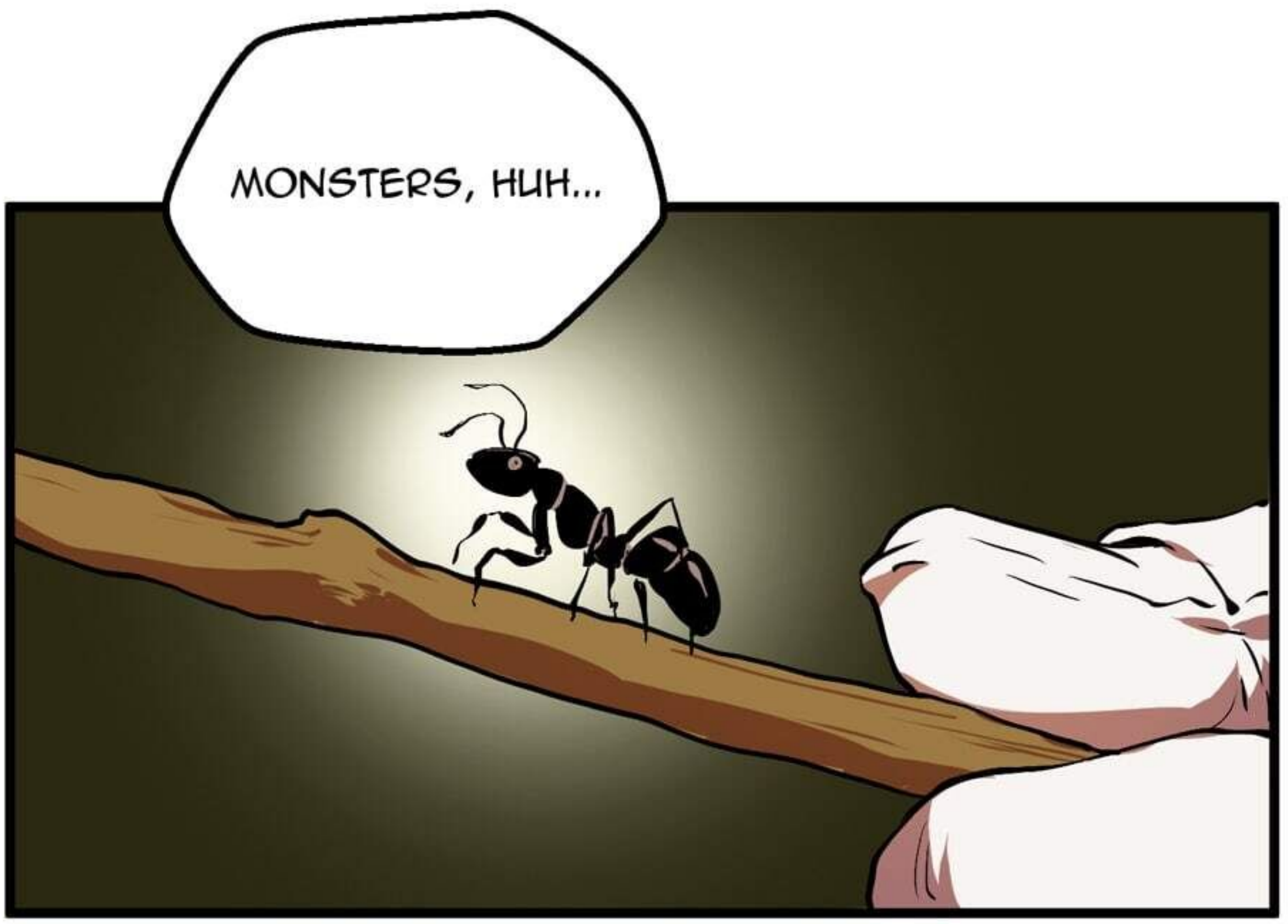
THAT'S MY FAMILY'S BUSINESS!


AND THESE DAYS, DRAGONS ARE NEARLY EXTINCT, SO IT'S REALLY HARD TO FIND THEM!

THERE AREN'T ANY DRAGONS? WHY?!
WHO KNOWS... WHY, ARE YOU INTERESTED IN DRAGONS?

IF I CATCH ONE, MAYBE I CAN LEVEL UP...
BECAUSE THERE WEREN'T ANY DRAGONS WHERE I GREW UP.

THEY'RE RARE MONSTERS, SO IT'S NOT EVERY DAY THAT YOU CAN SEE ONE...


MONSTERS, HUH...

DRAGONS ARE CERTAINLY SOMETHING TO BE FEARED.
THEY SOAR THROUGH THE SKY WITH WINGS AS LARGE AS A CASTLE WALL
AND CAN BURN THE EARTH WITH AN ENDLESS SUPPLY OF MANA.
BUT THE REAL REASON WHY I AM AFRAID OF THEM IS THAT...

THEY CAN RAISE THEIR LEVEL JUST BY KILLING THEIR ENEMIES.
JUST LIKE OTHERWORLDERS...

HOWEVER,
THEY'RE ALSO HIGHLY
INTELLIGENT AND
CAN CONVERSE.

PERHAPS, THEY ARE LIVING QUIETLY IN HIDING.
AND WHO KNOWS, MAYBE THEY'RE EVEN LONELY.

EVEN IF THEY'RE LONELY, IT'S BETTER FOR THEM TO BE SAFE.
THERE'S A WYVERN I KNOW.

SHE'S SMART AND SPEAKS REALLY WELL, BUT SHE CHOOSES TO LIVE IN HIDING.

HAHAHA

A WYVERN WHO CAN *TALK?* THAT'S THE BEST JOKE I'VE HEARD IN A LONG TIME!

IT'S TRUE, THOUGH. YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR IS WEIRD...

HAHA HAHA

HAHA

HA

HA...

ERIC,

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING A HUNTER AGAIN?

WHAT ARE YOU... HOW COULD I GO BACK TO BUCKMAN NOW, AFTER ALL THIS TIME? THAT WOULD BE SHAMELESS.

NO, I'M THINKING OF FORMING A PARTY MYSELF.

WHAT IF I
RUN AWAY AGAIN?

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU LEFT BUCKMAN'S PARTY,
BUT IF IT WAS BECAUSE YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT A SECRET YOU COULDN'T TELL BUCKMAN...
CRACK

DON'T YOU ALSO HAVE A LOT OF SECRETS?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?
WHAT SORT OF MAGE IS ABLE TO USE MAGIC WITHOUT CASTING ANY SPELLS?

TH-THEN WE BOTH HAVE SECRETS, SO IT'S ALL RIGHT!

ARE YOU STUPID?
WHERE IS THE GUARANTEE THAT YOU WON'T BETRAY ME FIRST?

YOU KNOW...
EVEN IF I BETRAY YOU, IT WOULDN'T MATTER.
BECAUSE I'M A NOVICE LEVEL 5 HUNTER.

AND THIS IS
A THICK FOREST.
CLINK
PLUS IT'S DARK.

...ERIC
FWOOSH

I'M SORRY.

RED DOG

CULTURE HOUSE